NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

LUCERNE.

We have often urged the culture of this excellent grass, and we have been greatly strengthened in our opinion of its superiority over all others, as an article for soiling, the present summer. We have had occasion to pass a small patch of *mixed lucerne and clover*, almost daily, and have taken particular notice of it. It has been cut twice already, and although the clover is but a few inches in height, the lucerne is ready for the third cutting, and we have no doubt will permit a fourth cutting before frost sets in.

The value of a grass which will bear such a repetition of cutting, cannot be too highly appreciated, and we have regretted that there should be such a manifest indisposition prevailing among farmers to enter into its culture.

There are but few farmers whose pastures afford any thing like a *full bite* to their cattle during the latter part of summer and fall: such might supply this deficiency by providing a few acres of this grass, to be cut for the purpose of soiling of a night, thereby relieving their pastures. Two acres well set in lucerne, if the soil be good and enriched with manure, would afford sufficient food to soil 20 head of cattle, of a night, from the middle of July till frost, besides affording one crop of hay.

Independent of the relief such management would afford to the pastures, the milch cows would yield more and better milk, as lucerne is known to contribute to the quantity and quality of that article, in an eminent degree. Another advantage to result from the system of night soiling, would be the greatly increased quantity of manure which the farmer would be enabled to make; and every body knows that manure made in the *summer*, is infinitely richer than that accumulated through the winter.

The labor of cutting and feeding out the green food for soiled cattle, we are aware has much force of objection with those who are content to let them pick up a precarious sustenance where they list; but to the economical farmer, who looks at the subject with a judicious, calculating eye, such objection should have no weight whatever, as the intrinsic value of the extra manure made, would more than compensate for the *time* thus occupied.

There is another reason that has tended to retard the culture of lucerne. Most of the writers upon the subject of its culture, insist upon the necessity of drilling it, and whether rightfully or otherwise, we are aware that a great aversion prevails among most American husbandmen, to such painstaking culture. But we are fully impressed with the belief, that, if the ground be well and thoroughly prepared with a view to the destruction of weeds, that *broadcast* cultivation will answer every valuable purpose. If we were asked how we would prepare the ground, we would say, that it should be plowed deeply and subsoiled in the spring as early as good work could be done; that after harrowing, it should be permitted to remain until a crop of weeds started, when they should be plowed in a few inches; then we would harrow it and let it remain until a *second* crop of weeds had covered the ground, when we would haul on our manure, plow that in, harrow the ground finely, sow the seed, 20 lbs. to the acre, harrow it lightly in, sow on the surface ten bushels of lime and as many of ashes to the acre, and finish by rolling.

If, notwithstanding our pains in the preparation of the ground, weeds should make their appearance in quantities to threaten the lucerne, we should have them extirpated the first season. After that there would be no danger to be apprehended, as from the rapid growth of the lucerne, it would protect itself from all intruders of the weed kind.

With regard to the after-culture of the lucerne, we would top-dress it every fall with a compost made of equal parts of well rotted manure and ashes, taking care to give the ground a good harrowing always before spreading the compost; after the latter operation we would pass the roller over it, and each spring, as early as possible, we would spread a bushel of plaster over each acre of it.

This may be considered a troublesome method of culture; but it is only so in appearance; for whatever a man *wills* to do, is, in reality, no trouble at all, provided he sets his heart to its accomplishment; therefore, the apparent labor indicated by our method, should be viewed as trifling, when it is considered that a field of lucerne once well set, will serve as a soiling resource for ten or twelve years, and that by pursuing the plan of yarding and feeding the cattle at home of nights, the farmer is enabled to provide his crops with a more abundant supply of manure, which would be otherwise dropt where it would be unavailing to him.

These are then considerations which should not be without their influence. The cattle generally would look better; the milch cows would be more docile, give more and better milk, and consequently yield more and richer butter, while the whole would enter upon their winter keep in better condition.—*Amer. Farmer.*

Value of Hens in a Garden.—At a late meeting of the New York Farmers' Club, Mr Smyth, the projector of the Atlantic Steam Navigation Company, said that he had in England trained two hens to destroy the insects in his garden, with great success. He would let the hens into the garden early in the morning, and as soon as they had finished their work, call them off to feed them, and then keep them away until the next morning, when they would be hungry. He was now engaged in training a regiment of hens to destroy the insects in a field of corn belonging to his nephew.

Stripping Leaves from Corn.—Some farmers are in the practice of stripping the leaves from corn for fodder, during this and the following month. This has always an injurious effect, as no part of a plant is more necessary for the maturity of its seed, than the leaves—for they are to plants the same as lungs to the human system. The truth of this may be easily proved by stripping alternate rows of corn in a field, and afterwards measuring the proceeds.—*Central N. Y. Far.*

From the Albany Cultivator.

INSECTS INJURIOUS TO AGRICULTURE.

Messrs. Editors—Permit me to call your attention, and also that of every American farmer, to a work published in Massachusetts, entitled "*A Treatise on some of the Insects of New England which are Injurious to Vegetation*—by T. W. HARRIS, M. D." Cambridge, Mass., 1842. I obtained an early copy of this work, and have now had the advantage of two seasons for comparing the details of the book with such insects as have come within my reach; and I am authorized by this experience to say, that it has more than answered my expectations, almost equalled my most sanguine hopes. So far, *even here in Maryland*, I have found no insect that could be embraced in the object of the work or explained in the title, that was not fully described in that Treatise. When you recollect that the work only pretends to describe insects that prevail in *New England*, you will admit that this is saying much for the work. It is a strange circumstance, but it appears to be a fact, that all insects of the class under notice, seem to proceed *from* the north-east *to* the west and south. Such was the point of departure, and such the *course* of the Hessian fly, the curculio, and I believe every other insect "injurious to vegetation." We have not yet among us the canker-worm, of which our north-eastern friends so much complain; nor the rose-slug, nor some other like destructive depredators upon our luxuries and comforts. How long will it be before they shall arrive here? I am induced to offer you this brief paper in consequence of the discovery of the *Spindle worm* in our corn, (called by Harris, the *Gortyna zea*, of the family of Nonagrians,) now, so far as I know, for the first time seen here. Harris's Treatise told me all about it, and I have published in our local papers such a description and method of prevention, as I hope will arrest the evil. GIDEON B. SMITH.

Baltimore, Md., 1844.

Lucerne.—In no former period (says a correspondent of the Mark-Lane Express,) have I experienced the value of lucerne, as during the present protracted drought; I have now nearly finished my first crop, which I have been cutting green for horses and cows, much of which measures in height 36 inches, and very thick; my second crop is now from 24 to 26 inches high, and as thick as the first. I am now about cutting this for hay. It does not appear to be in the least affected by the severe drought, which I attribute to the very great depth the roots run down. I would again urge all farmers to try to grow lucerne, for of all summer food for horses, this is the very best: I am inclined to say, likewise, nothing can be better food for cows, for my own have lived entirely upon it the last three weeks, my feeding pasture being quite burned up for want of rain, and have produced a full quantity of butter.—*Mark-Lane Express.*

Hon. Levi Lincoln, of Worcester, is the chairman of the Committee "on Cattle, &c. from other States," at the coming Show of the N. Y. State Ag. Society.

THE ECCALEOBION, OR EGG-HATCHING MACHINE.

There is now exhibiting at No. 11 1-2 School street, an Eccaleobion, invented and made by Mr Andrew Hartman, from Scotland. Mr H. has been experimenting for more than a year past, and has at last succeeded in producing a machine which answers his most sanguine expectations, and which he hopes may receive a share of public attention. There has been a machine in operation in London for some years, which first called the attention of Mr H. to the subject, while in England. Mr Hartman thinks he has made some valuable improvements over the London machine, in the application of his heat, which heat is obtained simply from hot water; thus saving the trouble and expense of attending a steam engine and pipes. Mr Hartman's machine performs its office for 10 hours without attendance; the fuel which heats the machine also heats the room, saving the expense of a stove and fuel: any good housewife can attend Mr Hartman's machine, and do all her house-work without any extra trouble. The machine now exhibiting, is capable of producing 20,000 chickens a year.

This machine executes the office of the parent hen, and in a remarkably perfect manner; in fact much better than most hens could perform the operation. Every body who has any thing to do with hatching poultry, knows that the great difficulty consists in keeping the hen upon her eggs. Some hens are better hatchers than others, but, generally speaking, they are too apt to leave their eggs to get cool; and this, by checking the incubation, at once destroys the unborn chick. By the Eccaleobion process, this chance of loss is entirely avoided. If the egg be a fresh good egg, it must give up its chick; nothing can keep it from being hatched.

An egg requires from 20 to 23 days to hatch, according to its quality and other circumstances; the exact time is allowed to be 21 days; but such is the variety of eggs, that a batch will require three days in entirely chipping.

This thing, trifling as it may appear to some, is highly deserving of public attention. Attempts to hatch eggs in ovens are of old date, but have never succeeded on a permanent or large scale in this country. In Egypt the practice has been more successful; yet even there, with the advantages of a superior climate, one in five of the hatched birds dies, and many are deformed, doubtless from the unequal application of the heat. It has only been by the Eccaleobion, as far as we can learn, that the birds have been brought out with certainty, or been reared successfully after being hatched: every bird is perfect, and will grow to its full size.

By employing hot-water pipes, the temperature is not only capable of being exactly regulated, but acts upon all sides of the egg alike. Hence, the eggs in the Eccaleobion require no handling or turning during the process.

Machines will be furnished to any one who may want, at a fair compensation, to hatch from 100 eggs to 2000. The exhibition is open from 8, A. M. to 9, P. M. Admittance, 12 1-2 cents. Children half price.—*Communicated.*

☞We have had the pleasure of examining Mr Hartman's Egg-Hatching Machine, in School street, and were highly delighted with it and its operations. We were shown a lot of little chicks five days old, all as hearty and lively, and apparently more comfortable, than they would have been under the care of an anxious, fidgety mother. There were also chickens in different stages of growth, which had not known a mother's care. Mr Hartman's mode of operating with hot water, is decidedly superior to steam, as the heat can be regulated with more accuracy. This gentleman was brought up to the business of raising poultry in Scotland, and appears to understand it perfectly well; is very communicative, and ready to impart his knowledge to his visitors. We will guaranty to those who take an interest in rearing poultry, that they will find more than an equivalent for their time and small admission fee, in the information and gratification they will obtain by dropping in to witness this interesting exhibition.—Ed.

From the Boston Cultivator

RECLAIMING EXHAUSTED LAND.

Messrs. Editors,—I present you with the following experiment in reclaiming worn out lands, which will be read with interest; for the mode adopted is so judicious and rational, that such a course of procedure must of necessity prove decidedly advantageous under any circumstances. I have no doubt the plan of mixing lime with earth before using, would be found of far greater importance in the application of that article to land than any other mode; allow me, therefore to call the attention of your readers to the circumstance of the compost acquiring, by frequent turning, "the appearance and smell of soaper's ashes," and proceed to give, in the words of the writer, the following interesting statement. S. Marshall.

I will inform you the Rockland Farm exhibited a subject for experiment, as it has been reduced by cropping. Having read in various books the vesult of sowing plaster and clover, it was presumed that the sowing of these would be the extent of the expenses required to fertilize the fields in a few years; but the experiment proved that the plaster and clover used were both lost, as no one could point out at any season of the year, what field they had been deposited upon. The soil was a cold or heavy clay, blue, white, light brown, and a few spots of red clay, loaded with hard blue stone and rocks, chiefly quartz, mixed with iron and copper. Some of the experiments were made with plaster; others were made by top-dressing with lime, at the rate of 25 to 30 bushels per acre; the lime being brought 25 miles from the kiln, and laid on the land at 25 cents per bushel. It was formed into a bed, six inches in thickness, and covered with earth that had been ploughed and thrown over it before it was slacked; a heavy harrow was passed over it as soon as it had been reduced to powder, and the bed of lime and earth was then *frequently turned* by the plough and harrow, until the whole assumed the appearance and smell of soaper's ashes, containing about ten parts of common soil to one of lime. It was then carted and spread regularly over the field; and in every instance it gave a return of Clover, equal to ten loads of stable manure to the acre. The idea of mixing the lime and earth was suggested from spreading the refuse of lime and sand gathered from about buildings, and laid upon the fields, the effect of which I observed, was more immediate than any equal quantity of clean lime, although the mixture of lime and earth was equally so: the succeeding rains carrying the fertilizing principle of the lime, as from a sieve, into the soil below, completely dividing it, and rendering that which was before too compact and cold for the roots of the grass and grain to live in, both warm and open: when immediately the whole soil, which before felt hard under the foot, became so elastic that persons of observation, by walking over the field even in the night, distinctly told how far the lime and earth compost extended: the color of the soil was likewise changed into that of chocolate: now these effects seemed to prove that any thing which would separate the particles of the soil and admit the air, would render these cold and heavy clays warm and fertile, the free intercourse of air carrying off the acid, &c.; and to meet this idea, ploughing in the fall was adopted and found successful. As an experiment, one half a field, six years ago, was ploughed in the Autumn, the other half in the Spring; but that part which was ploughed in the Spring has never yet brought grain or grass equal to the other. Spreading manurein the Autumn from the compost heap, has also been attended with universal success, both upon grain and grass; the salts of the manure being carried into the soil by the rains upon the breaking up of frost, which had in some measure prepared the soil to receive it. Vegetable substances have also been covered with earth, and when well rotted, the compost has been used with the same success as stable manure; and so long as they operate in separating the soil and promoting the access of the air, they fertilize and change the color of the mould. W. Young.

From the American Agriculturist.

TOO MUCH LAND.

During a recent excursion in this, and some of the New England States, I was struck with the comparative sterility of land which might by proper cultivation become "the garden of the world." Instead of seeing fields of wheat bearing 30 bushels to the acre, we find scarcely 12 to 15 is the yield; where two tons of hay should be cut, hardly one is the product; where thriving fruit-trees might be expected, bending beneath the weight of their delicious fruit, our eyes are pained by the sight of gnarled, stunted, and half-dead trees, scarcely able to sustain the life of the few curled-up leaves that come forth as if to reproach their owners by the sight of their consumptive appearance. If they had tongues to speak, how bitterly would they complain of their treatment. Is it because nature is so miserly that she does not reward man for the labor he bestows on her, or because man will not let her yield a bountiful supply in reward for his labor? What is the cause of this sterility, and the complaints of the farmers that they cannot make a living, though they have hundreds of acres at their command? It is evident the fault is with themselves. They attempt the cultivation of *too much land!*

Our farmers have from 50 to 500 acres under what they *call* cultivation. Still they are in debt, and in many cases the more they possess the worse they are off. Their land is scattered far and near. Two acres here, and ten there, instead of being compact together. In this manner, more time is often lost in going from one lot to another, in building the fences of other people, and keeping out their cattle, than the whole income of the land amount to. I have myself lost more time in this way in a single year, than it would take to keep ten acres in the finest condition.

What is the remedy? Sell half of your land and spend the proceeds of it on the remainder, and thus make what you have yield a liberal income. This may appear to those who have always "followed in the footsteps of their forefathers," of ad-

ding field to field to their farms, as the height of folly, but I am confident it will be their salvation. There is a good old adage, one that should be remembered by *farmers* as well as others, "Never attempt too much." Depend upon it, there is no course so suicidal as that of owning and attempting to cultivate 200 acres, when you can hardly do justice to 100. Suppose, for instance, a man has 50 acres of naturally good land, and he has but a certain amount of manure, time, &c., to use in its cultivation, which is not enough to keep it in heart, or pay that attention to rotation of crops, which it requires, is it not evident that the land, the owner, or whoever is connected with it, must suffer? Would not all intelligent persons condemn such a course? Yet how many such instances are to be seen all around us! I believe it would be for the interest of many farmers, even to *give* away a portion of their land, rather than have so much in their care. Self-interest tells us, it is the true policy of such a man to sell what he cannot properly use, for he would gain time to devote to the remainder, money to purchase all that it required, his crops would yield in double ratio, his land increase in value as it increased in fertility, and thus he would be in every way benefited.

I have seen acres of the best land, overrun with daisies, mulleins, and other noxious plants, that root out the grass, and eat up the life of the soil, without affording nourishment to man or beast, which might by a little attention yield a rich harvest. But the farmer has no time to attend to it, and the land becomes worse than useless; for it is self-evident that land must either increase in fertility, or decrease in value—there is no middle way—it must afford a profit or be an expense.

Look again at the swamp and meadow lands, with which our country abounds that are now worthless, and causing sickness and death in their vicinity. All these might be reclaimed and made the most productive land, by a small outlay of time and capital; the owners have neither, because they have too much land already calling for their attention. The muck contained in these places, can be made to pay better interest than bank stock. Yea, if properly used, it may be the farmer's mine of wealth.

This leads me to inquire how are our lands rightly to be cultivated? I reply by using the experience and directions of those who have studied the chemical formation of soils, and the effect different manures have on different soils. Much time is lost, and land injured, by the farmer not knowing the relative value of his manure, and the theory of rotation of crops, which might be saved by the expenditure of a little time and money in procuring and reading agricultural papers and books. There is too much of the saving a cent, and losing a dollar economy in this age. When the time shall have arrived that men will be willing to study the theory and practice of farming in all its details, then shall we see agricultural pursuits elevated to a proper standing and yielding a profit that shall rejoice the hearts of all.

C. Casse.

Orange County, N. Y.

Sensible men and women never sneer at mechanics and others who earn their living by their labor. But self styled gentlemen and ladies not unfrequently do. We have heard of a "lady" who once left a ball-room because a mechanic entered. She married a basket-maker, and died a washwoman.—*Exch. pap.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 10, 1844.

From Joseph Breck & Co., Dahlias, Roses, 12 var. Verbenas, Phlox Drummondii, 10 var. double Balsams, Catananche cœrulea, Didiscus cœrulea, Aconitum japonicum, Zinnias, Asters, Double Stocks, Crepis barbata, Rudbeckia fulgida, purpurea and digitata; Tiger flowers, Antirrhinum of sorts, Schizanthus, Phloxes of various sorts, Argemone Barclayana, &c. &c.

From S. R. Johnson, a great variety of fine Double Balsams, Roses, Verbenas, Coreopsis, and other cut flowers.

From Parker Barnes, Gladiolus and Dahlias—among them a superb specimen of Dodd's Prince of Wales.

From H. W. Dutton, 15 Dahlias, many of them fine specimens.

From Miss Sumner, bouquets.

From Messrs. Hovey & Co., Portulaci splendens, and Thessuloni Eutoca viscida; Nemophylla insignis, and 8 small bouquets of Roses and Verbenas, and 4 large ones.

From John Hovey, 8 bouquets.

From Wm. Kenrick, bouquets, China Roses, Dahlias, Gladiolus, Verbenas, Bignonias, basket of flowers, Altheas of various sorts.

From John A. Kenrick, bouquets and a basket of flowers.

From W. E. Carter, superb seedling Phloxes, viz: No. 1, Harrisonia, raised a few years since, and sometimes called Carter's New White; very fine. No. 2, one of the most magnificent whites ever exhibited; grows 2 feet 8 inches high; the stem is thickly set with numerous spikelets, each one terminating with a globular head; the stem crowned with a dense mass of flowers; the whole forming a complete pyramid 15 inches long: named Lawrencia. No. 3, a fine dark variegated sort, named Trifoliata striata. No. 4, a very beautiful and delicate variety; white variegated, and striped with lilac or light purple; very different from any thing before known among us, and should be found in every fine collection: named Frelinghuysen. No. 5, a very dense-headed white, with large flowers: named elata alba. No. 6, exhibited last Saturday; a fine dark variegated sort; named Henry Clay. Also, Phloxes of various sorts; Erythrina crista-galli, Euphorbia corolata and variegata, Canna flaccida and orovata, and other cut flowers.

From Samuel Walker, a great variety of fine Phloxes, embracing a number of Seedlings, described last week, and others not exhibited before; one of them with deep crimson-purple flowers; another variety, a fine shaded lilac; flowers of large size and good habit: named "Walker's Estelle." Also, a variety of cut flowers.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, white Water Lilies; a beautiful display of Roses; one var. very conspicuous, viz: Triumph d' Luxemburg; Dahlias; 15 small bouquets, composed of Roses, Verbenas, and other delicate flowers; Gladiolus of fine sorts, and other cut flowers.

Joseph Breck,
Chm'n Flower Committee.

Premiums for Phloxes.—The judges appointed to award the premiums on Phloxes, report that two stands only were presented, each containing very fine specimens, mostly seedlings. To Wm. E. Carter they award the first premium of $3—and to Samuel Walker the second premium of $2. Also, to Wm. E. Carter a gratuity of $2, for his seedling var. named "Frelinghuysen," and to Samuel Walker $2, for his seedling, named "Walker's Estelle."

Joseph Breck,
P. B. Hovey,
Parker Barnes.

Amusements for Farmers' Boys.—Being lately at the residence of one of our most intelligent farmers, our attention was attracted to the door of a small room in an outbuilding, which was labelled "——— Office." On inquiry, we learned that this was a room given up to the boys. Entering, we found it fitted up with miniature implements of husbandry, seeds of different kinds, a few plants, and branches of ever-green; the walls decorated with portraits of celebrated horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and poultry; while on some shelves, there were geological specimens, and several juvenile books of a character calculated to inspire a taste for rural life, and at the same time to teach correct modes of husbandry, horticulture, &c., the whole arranged in agreeable order. It struck us as an excellent plan, and we woulds uggest its general adoption. It furnishes the means of both amusement and instruction. How infinitely better it is to allow boys an opportunity of spending a part of their time in thus cultivating a taste for the investigation of those subjects by which their knowledge of nature and of the world around them is increased, than in mixing with rude company and becoming contaminated with their vices.—*Western Farmer.*

Maple Sugar.—It cannot be generally known that the great increase in the manufacture of this article is driving West India sugar out of the market: we have been informed that 10,000 hogsheads of maple sugar are sold annually in this city. There is scarcely a farmer in the interior of this State who has not a grove of maple trees from which he makes all the sugar he requires for family use. By mixing a little hot water in the syrup, it makes capital molasses. Great improvement is making in bleaching and granulating maple sugar, and by chemical process depriving it of its woody taste. In time, no other sugar will be used in this country, (excepting, perhaps, cornstalk,) and we can make it in any quantity and at a trifling cost.—*New York Sun.*

Lime and Rats.—A gentleman of this city who had occasion to use considerable lime about his premises, which had heretofore been much infested with rats, informed us that these destructive vermin had suddenly ceased to appear or to annoy him. "Before using the lime," said he, "you could scarcely walk across the yard after night without treading on them." He showed us several of their principal holes around which he had deposited a small portion of fresh unslacked lime, which evidently had the effect of driving them from these places, which they before resorted to in great numbers. The above is a simple and cheap method of getting rid of this annoying and destructive pest. Suppose you try it.—*Memphis paper.*

Herbs.—Herbs should be cut when the flowers are fully matured, and dried in the shade, and when thoroughly cured, placed in tight paper bags, so as to preserve the peculiar aromatic principle. Many plants, by this neglect, lose their efficacy and fragrance before they are used.—*American Agriculturist.*

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

HYBRIDIZING.

Among the many contrivances by which man has succeeded in converting the wild productions of untamed nature into bodies better adapted to his artificial wants, nothing has produced more past advantage or promises more future profit than *hybridizing*. We shall not refer in this place to what has been done in the animal kingdom, but confine the attention of the reader to its effects upon vegetation.

The practice is regarded as one of very recent date; and so it is, as an artificial process, applied by rule to definite purposes. But he must be a bold man who dares assign to it historical limits; on the contrary, it may be supposed to date from the creation—or rather, it is in a manner certain that it does. The presence of winds or insects must necessarily from the beginning have produced effects upon plants which resulted in hybrid productions.

Hybridizing is effected by applying to the stigma of one plant the pollen of some other; the end of which is the generation of a form participating more or less in the attributes of both its parents. Nature, in her wildest state, opposes no insurmountable difficulties in the way of this operation. Insects, bepowdered with the pollen of one plant, plunge into the recesses of another, and thus effectually destroy the purity of races. The natural brush on the body of a bee will convey the subtile powder as well as the trim camel's-hair pencil of the artificial operator.

It is contended, indeed, that this cannot be; because if it were so, all species must, in the lapse of ages, be confounded in one inextricable chaos. But, in the first place, this supposition is of little force, till it is shown that that which is easily done artificially cannot possibly take place naturally; and secondly, it must be proved that the wild races of plants actually do remain in all their original purity. No botanist would, we suspect, venture upon such an argument as that. The genera Salix, Rubus, Rosa, and Carex, would make the stoutest advocate of original purity pause before he threw himself into the lists. Nobody, in fact, can possibly doubt that wild hybrids exist, are common, and perhaps much more frequent than we think for. We will not stop to quote notorious and proved instances of this, because we regard the fact as being beyond all dispute.

Let us not, however, infer from this that no natural obstacles are opposed to the indiscriminate mixture of races in plants; on the contrary, there are barriers which cannot be overleaped. By some mysterious agency, there is a complete bar to all intermixture of plants not closely related to each other. An elm may certainly mix with an elm, and perhaps with a nettle-tree; but not with an oak. A peach may, peradventure, cross a plum, but not an apple. These obstacles are, doubtless, connected with the molecular constitution of plants, the precise nature of which we have no means of examining. Another obstacle consists in the obvious fact that the pollen of a flower has a better opportunity of falling upon the stigma that belongs to it, than pollen brought from any distance; and we know that if pollen has once taken effect, no after-application of other pollen can change the result. In fact, the natural hybridizing of wild plants will generally take place when, owing to some accidental cause, the proper stamens of the flower prove defective.

But there is a still more effectual obstacle to the confusion of races by natural hybridizing. Although we conceive that the *production* of hybrid plants naturally is of more common occurrence than may be supposed, it must be remembered that the *preservation* of them is quite an artificial process. A hybrid tree springs up; it has no means of multiplying itself, except by seed. That seed has no stable constitution, but has a tendency to return towards the condition of one of its parents; in this way the hybrid disappears, while the parents remain; or it may be, and often is, barren; and then it remains as a solitary, childless individual. Again, a hybrid herb appears; it is exposed to the same obstacles as the tree, in the way of perpetuation: it is barren; its seeds of themselves tend towards the original stock, which is recovered in a generation or two; or they are at once fertilized by the pollen of one of the hybrid parents, when the tendency to a return to its original stock is increased tenfold in strength. It is not, therefore, likely that natural hybrids will often be long perpetuated, although they may be frequently produced.

We mention these things by way of vindicating the hybridizers, who have been accused of attempting to subvert the whole order of nature by monstrous practices. It is clear that they only imitate the practices of nature. It is equally clear, too, that the occasional formation of natural hybrids is intended as a manifestation to man of one of the sources of power with which he is so largely provided. His reason is to be called upon to turn to profitable account that which, in savage nature, leads to no result.

Hitherto the operation of hybridizing has been mainly confined to gardens. But see what advantages have come of it there. What were our Roses in 1789, when the first China Rose reached England? and what are they now? The China Rose hybridizes so freely with almost every other, that there is hardly an ancient species to which it has not lent some part of its rich foliage, gay colors, and abundant blooming. Can anything be more striking than the effect of hybridizing upon Pelargoniums, Heaths, Gloxinias, Verbenas, and Gladioli? By this process we have given to the hardy Pears of the north all the richness and delicacy of those of the south; to watery grapes the perfume of the Muscat; to the pale-faced but hardy Rhododendrons of the Caucasus and America, the rich and glowing colors of their tender brethren of India; to the gaudy Azalea of Pontus, the crimson of the small-flowered fragrant species of the United States.

Such striking consequences of the very first operations in hybridizing, have excited a universal desire to vary and extend them. Everybody now, who cares for his garden, asks himself in the first place what he can do to get new seedlings; and to hybridizing he looks exclusively for assistance.

Hybridizing is a game of chance played between man and plants. It is in some respects a matter of hazard. What increases the charm of the game is, that although the end of it may be doubtful, yet a good player can judge of the issue with tolerable confidence, and that skill and judgment have in this case all their customary value.

Though hybridizing has already led to important results, they are probably nothing compared with what may be expected to come of it. We anticipate through its assistance a change in the whole face of cultivated plants, and we shall be much surprised if even a few years do not bring us acquainted with races of trees, esculents, corn, and forage plants, of at least as much importance in their way as those which have already appeared among fruits and flowers: all that is wanted is to call attention to the subject, and to point out what the principles are which the experimenter has to bear in mind.

The effect is produced by applying the pollen of one flower to the stigma of another. The pollen indicates the male parent, the stigma the female. In performing the operation, it is necessary to use these precautions:—The female flower must be deprived of her stamens before they burst and disperse their pollen; and as soon as the stigma is glutinous enough to hold it fast, the pollen must be applied with care. Should this care not be taken, the stigma is very likely to be inoculated with the pollen of her own or some other flower, and then the pollen which it is intended to use will not take, for it must always be borne in mind that a stigma once inoculated cannot be inoculated again. From want of these precautions, people are continually fancying they have obtained hybrids when they have only gained natural seedlings. At least half the specimens of so-called hybrids sent to us for examination, are not hybridized at all. When the Dean of Manchester, who is the greatest of all authorities in this matter, wishes to obtain a cross, he always endeavors to force the female parent before others of its kind blow, so as to be insured against accidental inoculation from pollen floating in the air Want of attention in these minutiæ has led to some singular errors on the part of a very ingenious correspondent, who fancied he had obtained hybrids between Crinum, Ismene, Buphane, Calostemma, &c., while he had only raised the usual seedlings.

It is hard to say within what limits the operation may be successfully practiced. The general rule is, that plants only which are very nearly related, are able to inoculate each other. But there may be exceptions to this. At least we know that very near connexions have, or seem to have, a great aversion for one another. For example, a Raspberry and a Strawberry are first cousins, yet they appear to have no mind for an alliance. A Gooseberry, Currant, and Black Currant, are still nearer to each other, and their repugnance seems invincible; at least nobody has yet found means to hybridize them with each other, though many have attempted it. On the other hand, Heaths, different as they are from each other, intermingle freely; Cereus speciosissimus is readily inoculated with the night-flowering Cereus; and even the creeping Cereus has been crossed with the former; the Rhododendron will fertilize the Azalea; and, strangest of all, the Red Cedar has on several occasions been found to inoculate the American Arbor Vitæ, the issue from which is that curious whip-cord-branched plant, called in the gardens Thuja filiformis. This singular shrub was so produced for the first time in Messrs. Loddiges' nursery at Hackney, and has since been obtained in the same manner at Paris. These facts open a very wide field for inquiry, and are especially valuable as affording evidence that the limits of hybridizing are far from being narrow.

In the midst of many experiments conducted without exactness, from which no safe conclusion can be drawn, there are some which, in the hands of such men as the Dean of Manchester, seem to justify the important inference that, as a general rule, the properties of the male parent will be most conspicuous in the hybrid. For example,

Mr Herbert crossed the long yellow-cupped common Daffodil, with the small red-edge-cupped Poet's Daffodil; and the seeds of the common Daffodil furnished a bulb with most of the attributes of the Poet's Narcissus. The same gentleman obtained also out of a capsule of Rhododendron ponticum, inoculated by Azalea pontica, seedlings which had entirely the habit of the latter or male parent. When the common scarlet Azalea, with its crimson flowers and narrow leaves, was inoculated by Azalea pontica, Mr Gower found that its seeds produced plants much more like the male than the female parent. Exceptions, or apparent exceptions to this, do no doubt exist, and hybrids could be found which are either half way between their father and mother, or more like the mother than the father; but as far as any means of judging at present exist, these would seem to be the exception and not the rule; and therefore the greater influence of the male may be taken as a tolerably safe guide in all experiments upon this interesting art.

The Feeding of Cattle.—Mr Ellsworth, in his annual report to Congress, remarks that the subject of the economical feeding of cattle, deserves due attention. The following table furnishes the relative value of some of the principal articles of fodder, as determined by experiment:

100 lbs. of good hay are equal to—

275 lbs. green corn,
442 lbs. rye straw,
164 lbs. oat straw,
153 lbs. pea stalks,
201 lbs. raw potatoes,
175 lbs. boiled do.
332 lbs. mangel wurtzel,
504 lbs. turnips,
105 lbs. wheat bran,
109 lbs. rye bran,
167 lbs. wheat, pea and oat chaff,
179 lbs. rye and barley,
54 lbs. rye,
64 lbs. wheat,
59 lbs. oats,
45 lbs. peas or beans,
64 lbs. buckwheat,
57 lbs. Indian corn.

16 lbs. of hay are equal to 32 lbs. of potatoes; and 14 lbs. of boiled potatoes will allow of the diminution of 8 lbs. of hay.

An ox requires 2 per cent. of his live weight per day in hay; if he works, 2 1-2 per cent. A milch cow, 3 per cent.; a fattening ox, 5 per cent. at first, 4 per cent. when half fat, or 4 1-2 average. Sheep, when grown, 3 1-2 per cent. of their weight in hay per day.

Green Corn Pudding.—A Louisville paper gives the following recipe for making a fine pudding: "Take of green corn twelve ears and grate it. To this, add a quart of sweet milk, a quarter of a pound of fresh butter, four eggs well beaten, pepper and salt sufficient; stir all well together and bake four hours in a butter dish. Some add to the other ingredients a quarter of a pound of sugar, and eat the pudding with sauce. It is good cold or warm, with meat or sauce; but epicures of the most exquisite taste declare for it, we believe, hot, and with the first service. Let every wife who would like to surprise her husband with a rare delicacy, try it." The editor of the Boston Times says he has found it *not superior* to *boiled cucumbers.*

From the Boston Cultivator.

NEW MODE OF FARMING.

I pray you, Messrs. Editors, permit me to detail what appears to me, a new mode of farming. It was communicated in the way of conversation with an honest old German, who informed me he purchased a small farm of 70 acres in the neighborhood of the Lehigh coal region, where also he had charge of a lock on the canal; that next year he should have a *taller* (larger) farm, and devote himself to its cultivation.

I inquired if he would grow corn?

"Yes."

And wheat?

"Yes."

Oats?

"Yes, for the fodder—and cut it all up together, grain and straw."

Would he keep a dairy?

"No, only one cow for my wife, as I do not care for milk and butter."

Hogs?

"No, only one or two, to eat up the waste about the house."

Then what stock would you keep?

"None in summer, but plenty in winter."

I then desired him to detail his plan, which he did in his quaint manner, as follows:

"I keeps no cow, no ox, no sheep, no hog all summer, nor plow much. All my land, so much as I can, I gives to grass. Then, when my neighbors say, 'Oh, my hogs and my cows get into my corn and eat it all up,' I say, I keeps no cow and no hog: I very comfortable about my fences; they cost me nothing, for I have no cattle to break them. But I makes the hay so much as I can, and my cornstalks so big as I can, and my oats so much as I can, and save all up for winter; a great barn and stable quite full, and the ricks in the yard; and then I watch my neighbors; for when I hear John Stone say in the spring, 'Oh, I got much grass—I must buy two cows,' when he haint 'nough for one cow, I say to myself, Oh, I buy your cows in winter, when you got no hay for them. So when he come and say, 'You buy my two cows, cause you got plenty hay,' I say, yes—I give you five dollar apiece for them; and I gets them, cause he got no hay nor nothing to give them. So I do with the rest of my neighbors; only I do not buy the bad cows, only the good cows, what will have calfs; and they keep the bad cows, 'cause nobody will buy them. So I keeps them well and cleans them very nice, and makes them very fat and big, and when the little calfs come, I give them all the milk, and they grow fat and big; and then my neighbors comes in the spring and wants to buy their cows again, for they got the grass and no cows to eat it; and so I sells them their cows back again for *twenty* dollars apiece, and sometimes gets thirty or forty; but I keeps the calfs, 'cause I wants them for the butcher. And so I sells my neighbors their own cows again—*but I gets all the dung*; and as they gets no dung, they get no crops; while I gets all the dung, and the crops, and the profit too!"

Messrs. Editors, when I hear my neighbors inquire what course they shall adopt, so as not to follow exactly in the path which others are pursuing, I think of my old German friend, who "gets the dung, the crops, and the profit too," and am led to ask, if there be any objection to the plan here pointed out?

[Perhaps not, where cows can be purchased and sold at the rates above specified.—N. E. Far.]

Dried Strawberries.—Last summer, by way of experiment, when strawberries were plenty, I attached threads to several stalks and hung up a few which were over-ripe to dry. I placed them inside a window facing the south, where they remained from June last until the present time, (March 28.) They have been tasted, and the result is most satisfactory. That agreeable acid peculiar to the strawberry, is in full perfection; the flavor of the fruit without any watery taste, is delicious; it dissolves in the mouth as slowly as a lozenge, and is infinitely superior to the raisin. The experiment may be tried when the fruit is so ripe as to be scarcely worth gathering, without any further expense or trouble than being hung up.—*London pap.*

There is a common practice in farming which our personal experience convinces us is bad economy; and that is, the close feeding of grass lands after the hay is taken off. Upon ground that has no advantage of overflow or wash, this close feeding will lessen the crop amazingly; the feed itself is not half in amount of the value of the hay crop of the next year alone which it takes away. Farmers would do much better to lessen their number of acres of mowing and convert it into pasture, that they might shut their cattle entirely from their mowing grounds. In a rough country, there is necessarily a great portion of some farms that must remain in pasture: but a farm that has none or few rocks, may be plowed in all parts; and here a quick rotation will enable the farmer to plow both his pasture and mowing grounds. A pasture cultivated and manured like mowing lands, will give at least four times the feed of the same land kept permanently down to pasture.—*Far. Month. Visitor.*

Wheat—Lime.—We saw yesterday a parcel of very superior red wheat, weighing 64 pounds per bushel, which was raised under circumstances showing what good management may effect in the agricultural line. The wheat in question was the product of a field which a short time since was part of a waste common that had been uncultivated for many years, and was deemed to be too poor and worn out to yield any thing. After enclosing it, the present owner put lime upon it in the proportion of 100 bushels to the acre, and followed the lime with a liberal application of stable manure. Last fall the field so prepared was sowed in wheat, and has just returned a crop of the very best quality, averaging 30 bushels to the acre. The field thus restored and enriched, will require but little additional outlay for years to come, and in the mean time will yield a liberal annual return to its sagacious owner.—*Baltimore Amer.*

Transplanting Fruit Trees.—Capt. Josiah Lovett, of Beverly, Mass., plants his fruit trees between the 20th of August and last of September—immediately after the summer drought, when the summer growth of wood has ripened. He cuts off all the leaves before removing, with a pair of sharp scissors, and then, in the morning of a clear day, raises the tree, and places the roots in a tub of soapsuds till the afternoon, then replants it. He also grafts in autumn, (he does not mention at what time,) for fruit for the next year.—*Hovey's Mag.*

By Mr Ellsworth's report it appears there were 315,965 lbs. silk raised in the country last year.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, August 14, 1844.

MAKING STRAWBERRY BEDS OR PLANTATIONS.

Those who intend to form new beds or plantations of Strawberries, are admonished that if they wish to be successful, it is time to be preparing their ground and making ready for the young plants. Every family who has a few rods of ground to spare, should have strawberries, for home consumption at any rate, as it will require but little care to keep a plantation of sufficient size in order, and a few rods will produce a bountiful supply for a large family, of the most delicious and healthy fruit our climate or any other affords. If situated near a city or market town, any surplus amount of fruit may be disposed of at high prices and at great profit; and if in the interior, the time spent by the children and female part of the household in trampling over the farmer's grass, "strawberrying," as it is termed, were devoted to the culture of a strawberry bed, more fruit and of a better quality would be obtained with the same labor or time, and then there would be no scolding about the grass, which sometimes causes the farmer some unpleasant feelings, as he sees a gang of youngsters driving through the thickest of it for a few miserable little strawberries. We advise all to have a strawberry bed and to take immediate steps to form one.

The location for a strawberry bed should be neither a very dry or wet one—for if made on a dry spot, in seasons of drought the crop will be a meagre one, as we have ourselves experienced the present season—and if very wet, in rainy seasons the ground will be so saturated with water that the fruit will be of inferior quality, and the plants less luxuriant and productive. A reclaimed meadow well drained, or a rich loamy soil inclining to moisture, will be most favorable for the growth of the strawberry plant, and produce the best fruit.

The ground should be enriched with fine, well rotted barn-yard manure, and faithfully pulverized and dug to the depth of fifteen inches or more; it should then remain a week, when the soil should be dug over again, after which it should be raked and made perfectly fine and smooth, when the bed will be ready for the plants, after it has been lined out in drills eighteen inches apart. The plants should be the offsets of the present season, the first ones thrown out by the parent plant, which are the strongest and best. Old plants should never be used, as they are not so sure to live, nor will they make vigorous, fruitful plants. The proper time for planting is as soon as the offsets have become well rooted, which will be from the 10th to the 20th of August. They should be set out a foot from each other in the drill, and if the operation is well done, having the earth pressed closely round the roots, they will be sure to live, unless an unusually dry time succeeds, when it will be well to give occasional waterings at the close of the day. They will need no other care than to keep down the weeds, until severe cold weather, before winter sets in, when the plants should have a slight protection of strawy horse manure or sea-weed. Covering too deep is injurious, and sometimes destructive.

For a plantation two rods by one, in drills 18 inches apart, 360 plants will be required, but as it is well to have a few supernumerary plants in case of accident, 400 may be ordered, or 200 per square rod. If they are planted in beds with three drills lengthways in the bed, with a space of 2 1-2 feet between the drills in each bed, the exact number wanted per square rod will be 150. Some prefer to plant in this way.

As to the varieties to be recommended for family use, there may be different opinions. There are some very fine varieties which are desirable on account of their exquisite flavor, or large fruit, or for forcing, &c., which every amateur in strawberries will desire to possess. Some of these are shy bearers, tender, with weak stems, insufficient to bear the fruit erect, or some other failing, as an offset to their good properties. We have had considerable experience in this matter, and have made many inquiries among market-men and other gardeners, who have a natural propensity to find out which varieties are the most profitable, and they agree with us that, for our climate, the Early Virginia, Hovey's Seedling, and the Red and White English Wood are, upon the whole, the most desirable.

We have been laughed at for the opinion we expressed a few weeks since in the N. E. Farmer, in relation to these varieties, by one who has most of the new varieties for sale; but after further inquiry and reflection, still hold the same mind.

There is one thing to be remembered in regard to Hovey's Seedling—that in its flowers, the stamens, or male part of it, are rather deficient, and when planted by themselves are inclined to be barren. This deficiency is easily remedied by planting the Early Virginia or some other variety in every other bed or row. There are many fine qualities about this variety which recommend it for general cultivation. The stem is tall and stiff, raising its trusses of large fruit above its luxuriant foliage, and it is also an abundant bearer.

This variety has put in the back ground every other exhibited in our Horticultural rooms this or any previous season; the berries are very large and richly colored, and if it has not so exquisite a flavor as some of the newly imported or other fancy sorts, it will require an experienced connoisseur to detect any essential inferiority.

The Early Virginia comes in first, is a good bearer, and much esteemed. The White and Red English Wood, when well cultivated, continue long in bearing, and are very productive. The Keen Seedling is a fine variety for forcing, but rather tender. The Bishop's Orange is a good bearer, and the fruit is of a good size and fine flavor, but the stems are so weak that the fruit lies near the ground, and unless special pains are taken to cover the earth with straw, it will be gritty, especially after a shower. Methven Castle, and a variety of other fine old sorts and numerous new ones of high reputation, worthy of attention might be named, where a variety is wanted.

CUTTING BUSHES—MOON'S INFLUENCE.

In our paper of last week, we admonished our readers that, according to ancient custom, August was the season for cutting bushes: we also "repudiated" the influence of Madam Luna in the matter. We have since been reminded that one of our highly esteemed agricultural friends, of many years' experience, is strong in the faith that *she has* a very important influence, and that it is concentrated when "*the sign is in the heart, in the old of the moon in August.*" Neither one day later or one day earlier will be so effectual as on these particular days, which occurred this year on the 12th and 13th inst.; too late for the farmers to be benefited by it this season, unless they were in the secret, and improved the opportunity. We have so much respect for the venerable gentleman who is so confident on this point, and who affirms that he has satisfactory evidence, by the results of a number of years' experience, of the efficacy of operating at this particular time, that we cut a lot of bushes on the 12th, and shall cut again next week; but as our faith is very weak, we do not anticipate very different results.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, Aug. 10, 1844.

By E. M. Richards, Dedham; Apples—var. Early Spice, Sopsavine, Curtis's Striped, Summer Pearmain, Webb, Benoni, Summer Rose, Red Juneating, Sugar Loaf Pippin, Red Astrachan, Early Bough and River.

Dr. J. C. Warren, Boston; Louis Philippe Plums, large, handsome, and high flavored; color, light purple; this is a first rate variety.

Parker Barnes, Jargonelle Pears.

L. P. Grosvenor, Williams's Favorite Apple.

Wm. McIntosh, Williams's Favorite and Sopsavine Apples; Sugartop and Jargonelle Pears.

Whiting Hewins, Roxbury; Nectarine Plums.

Aaron D. Williams, Apricots, Plums, 3 var., and 6 var. of Apples.

Plums, by J. W. Seaver, Roxbury.

Joseph Ballister, Dorchester; River Apples.

J. F. Allen, Salem; Melons, Grapes, Black Hamburg and Sweetwater, Peaches (fine,) Pears, Jargonelle and August Muscat.

Red Whortleberries from Johnstown, R. I., presented by A. Mason.

Hon. J. S. Cabot, Salem; Pears—Jargonelle (fine) and Fondante d' Ete.

O. Johnson, Lynn; very fine specimens of Red Astrachan and Early Bough Apples.

Jno. A. Kenrick, Newton; Royale de Tours Plums, and River Apples.

Samuel Pond, Cambridgeport; Apricot, Washington, Italian Damask, and Pond's Seedling Plums.

H. Vandine, Early Black (?) Washington, large yellow Gage, and Duane's Purple Plums.

Wm. Richardson, extra fine Peaches, var. yellow Rareripe and Coolidge's Favorite, and some fine Nectarines.

J. L. L. F. Warren, River, and Curtis's Red Striped Apples; Washington Plums, and two boxes of fine Raspberries.

S. G. Hyde, Newton; Apples—Williams's Favorite, Summer Gillyflower, Red Calville, Seek-no further, Waitt's Early, and Flanders' Pippin; Plums, Mrs. Gisborne and Washington.

J. Macomber, Jamaica Plains, Roxbury; Early Bough Apples and Fotheringham Plums; Sopsavine Apples, and a specimen pear for a name.

Henry W. Dutton, Peach Apricot.

Wm. G. Lewis, Roxbury, fine Apricots.

Wm. Thomas, Italian Damask and Washington Plums.

J. S. Sleeper, Roxbury; Apricots; Plums, 2 var. viz: Apricot and Italian Damask.

S. Walker, Roxbury; Pears—Sugar-top; Apples, Gravenstein, Benoni, and Williams's Favorite.

For the Committee, S. Walker, *Chm'n.*

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES.

Very remarkable specimens of Drumhead and Savoy Cabbages were exhibited today by Mr Wm. Macintosh, of Roxbury.

Jno. A. Kenrick.

☞Flower report on 3d page.

A rook was recently killed in England, which had in its crop 19 grub-worms and 17 wire-worms.

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Society, held Saturday 13th inst., the following members were chosen a *Committee of Arrangements* for the coming *Annual Exhibition*;—Samuel Walker, Chairman; P. B. Hovey, jr., Joseph Breck, E. M. Richards, Otis Johnson, John A. Kenrick, David Haggerston, Josiah Lovett, 2d, Capt. Macondry.

Attest,

July 13. 5w EBENEZER WIGHT, *Rec. Sec.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Aug. 11.

Aug., 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	29	63	81	72	S.W.
Tuesday,	30	63	80	70	E.
Wednesday,	31	66	73	64	E.
Thursday,	1	67	83	74	S.E.
Friday,	2	74	85	77	N.
Saturday,	3	66	74	66	E.
Sunday,	4	71	70	67	N.E.
Monday,	5	68	75	67	N.E.
Tuesday,	6	59	80	67	S.E.
Wednesday,	7	62	78	74	N.
Thursday,	8	64	82	76	E.
Friday,	9	67	84	78	S.
Saturday,	10	76	62	74	W.
Sunday,	11	58	73	59	N.W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 12, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 520 Beef Cattle, 2200 Sheep and 270 Swine.

Prices—*Beef Cattle.*—The prices obtained last week were fully sustained. Extra $5. First quality, $4,75. Second quality $4,50. Third quality, $3,50 a 4,50.

Sheep.—Lambs from $1,25 to 2. Old Sheep from $1,75 to 2,50.

Swine.—Lots to peddle, 3 7-8c., two thirds Barrows, At retail from 4 1-2 to 6.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, (nominal) per bushel. Red Top 00 to 00 cents. Clover—Northern, 0 to 00c.—Southern, 0 a 0 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN. The market for Grain continues firm at our quoted rates; the arrivals have been considerable, and sales large; at the close, nearly every cargo afloat changed hands. Rye is a shade better, but with very limited demand.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 53 a 53½—do. do. white 50 a 51—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 65 a 70—do. Southern, 60 a 63 —Oats, Southern, 30 a 32—Northern do. 34 to 00—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 23 a 25—Bran, 18 a 20.

FLOUR. For this article, the market continues to present a drooping appearance. Sales of Genesee have been made at some further reduction, with an exceedingly limited demand; and for most other descriptions, the transactions have been confined to the usual retail trade.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 25 a 4 31—do. wharf, $4 18 a 4 25—do. free of garlic, $4 25 a 4 31—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 18 a 4 25—Fredericksburg, low p'd 4 mos. $4 12 a 4 25—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $4 25 a 4 50—Richmond Canal, $4 12 a 4 25 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 31 a 4 50— do fancy brands $4 37 a 4 50 — Ohio, via Canal, $4 12 a 4 18—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 20 a 3 25—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 37 a 2 50.

PROVISIONS. The market is without any material change, compared with the previous report. The demand for Lard has been materially increased by orders for foreign export.

Beef—Mess 4 no. new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 50.—No. 1, $5 50 a 6 00—do Prime $3 00 a 4 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $11 50 a 12 00 do. Mess, $9 50 a 10 00—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 15 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5½ a 6½—Hams, Boston, 7 a 00 —Southern and Western, 6 a 6½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per et. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

The business of the week has been at former reported prices.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 50 a 55 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 47—Do 3-4 do 40 a 42—Do. 1-2 do 37 a 40 -1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25—Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 42 a 45—No. 1 do. do. do. 37 a 40—No. 2 do do do 25 a 33—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

This article remains very dull of sale. Some little inquiry for export since the arrival of the steamer, but the orders were limited at 6 a 6 1-2 per lb., too low to be executed. The last accounts from England were more favorable for a fair crop. The returns of the growing crop, in this country, continue favorable for a large yield.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 7 a 7½; 2d do 5 a 6.

HAY, 12 to 15 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 10 50.

EGGS. 12.

Annual Fair and Cattle Show,

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

For the year 1844.

To be held at Poughkeepsie, Sept. 17th, 18th & 19th.

TO THE FRIENDS OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

Between four and five hundred Premiums are offered for the best qualities of Agricultural Products of all sorts, Animal and Vegetable; and for Implements and Goods of Domestic Manufacture, whether household or factory—particulars respecting which premiums may be found in the Agricultural Journals and handbills Many of the Premiums—on Cattle, and other things—are open for competition from other States.

Manufacturers of Woollen and Cotton Goods in New England, as well as in this State, and all others engaged in manufacturing articles anywise connected with the wants of the Farmer and Mechanic, may find the State Fair an advantageous opportunity for exhibiting samples of their productions. Persons intending to exhibit articles of any kind, should report to the Recording Secretary (Henry O'Reilly,) of Albany, as soon as practicable, free of postage; so that adequate arrangements may be made for transportation, &c.

Admission to the Fair, one Shilling—or $1 for membership, which will allow admission to the member's family.

The facility of travelling and transportation by steamboats on the Sound and Hudson River, and by the Railroads connected therewith, (together with the liberality usually manifested by Railroad and Steamboat Companies on such occasions, with the arrangements for accommodating visitors at Poughkeepsie and other towns adjacent on the Hudson) warrant the belief that the immense throngs usually attending the State Fairs will be better accommodated at the next Fair than on any former occasion.

Editors are requested to notice the arrangements, for the benefit of their readers among the farmers and mechanics. Visitors to the Fair will find the excursion to and from, through the Highlands and by West Point, very pleasant; and the most thorough arrangements will secure general satisfaction to those visitors while at Poughkeepsie.

July 17.

CIDER MILL FOR SALE.

A first rate Cider Mill, with good Screws, in complete order, will be sold cheap, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 23.

LACTOMETERS

A simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office. JOS. BRECK & CO.

GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N. Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use. For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.

51 and 52 North Market Street.

STRAWBERRIES!

The subscriber can supply all the most esteemed varieties of Strawberries now in cultivation. The present is considered a good time for the formation of new beds. The following are the prices per hundred plants:—

Hovey's Seedling—a very superior variety, of large sized fine flavor, abundant bearer, and very hardy, $2,00

Keene's Seedling—Large fruit, very high flavor and high perfume, $2,00

Bishop's Orange—Fine size, abundant bearer and superior flavor. $2,00

Elton Seedling—Very large fruit of a superior flavor, considered one of the best in England, $2.00

Myatt's Pine—A delicious fruit, $3,00

Early Virginia, $1,00

English Wood, $1,00

Orders sent by mail enclosing the money will be punctually attended to, and the plants well packed for transportation. JOSEPH BRECK.

Boston, Aug. 6, 1844.

BEMENT'S AMERICAN HOTEL,

NO. 100 STATE-STREET, ALBANY,

Is now open for the reception of company, having undergone a thorough repair and complete renovation from the cellar to the attic. It has been newly furnished throughout, and in quality of beds, cleanliness, and airy rooms, will now compare with any other establishment in the city.

In location, this House has many advantages, being situated in the centre, and on one of the most beautiful streets in the city; within a few moments' walk of the Eastern and Western Railroad Depots and the landing of the Steamboats; about midway between the Capitol, Public Offices, and the Banks, Post-Office, and the business parts of the city, renders it very convenient for the man of business, as well as gentlemen of leisure

The subscriber places much reliance on the countenance and support of the Agriculturists throughout the Union, who may visit the city, and pledges himself to spare no exertions to render their stay agreeable, should they favor him with their company.

Three Hills Farm will be carried on as usual, under my own superintendence, by a careful manager, and the breeding and rearing improved stock will be continued as heretofore. C. N. BEMENT.

Albany, June, 1844.

GLASS SUPERCEDED FOR HORTICULTURAL PURPOSES.

Chemical Transparent water proof composition, for rendering Muslin, Cotton, or Linen, for the frames of Greenhouses, pine, melon or cucumber Stoves, &c., impervious to rain, or moisture, and admitting light equal to glass, the burning rays of the sun alone being obstructed. Houses, pits or frames covered with cloth prepared with this composition, embrace important advantages over glass. The light being equally diffused in every part of the house; plants placed on the floor have as much light as those close to the covering, consequently they are not drawn up as under glass, while they continue much longer in bloom, and preserve their delicate tints unfaded until the blossom falls. These facts are gathered from undoubted English authority, and so far as this prepared cloth has been tried in this country has given entire satisfaction, and no doubt will be instrumental of a very great improvement in the Horticulture of this country.

For framing of all sorts, as well as green houses, it will answer an excellent purpose, as it prevents the radiation of heat, and obstructs the burning rays of the sun; it will give a congenial, moist atmosphere for plants in general. The cost is so trifling that it may be brought into general use for the growing of sallads, radishes, &c., and in a particular manner for Strawberries, Gooseberries and other small fruit which in our climate would be much improved by screening from the burning sun.

This composition is prepared for the subscribers, by a person competent, and will be warranted equal to Whitney's imported from England.

For sale at No. 52, North Market street, at the Agricultural Warehouse, up stairs.

July 30. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

CHEESE PRESSES.

Self-acting and other Cheese Presses, of the most approved kinds, for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 52 North Market street, by J. BRECK & Co.

SILK COCOONS WANTED.

The subscriber will *pay cash* for good Cocoons, assorted, and well flossed. They are worth, according to kind and quality, from $2 to $4 per bushel, measure rounded.

J. R. BARBOUR.

Oxford, July 10.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Advantages of a Trade.—Franklin says, "he who has a trade has an estate," and never was a more true or useful maxim uttered by that great man. Many were the rules of conduct laid down by him, and practiced too, during his long life, which, if followed by men in all times and ages, would greatly improve the condition and circumstances of the multitude. The above saying it easily understood by all, and applicable to all professions or pursuits. A great day it will be for our country when youth shall be induced or compelled to adopt some calling,—when they shall prefer to become respectable farmers or mechanics rather than third rate lawyers, doctors or divines.

The above remarks were suggested by a little anecdote we heard lately. A young man, born heir to a large estate, was, at the age of fifteen, regularly apprenticed to a respectable mechanic, for the purpose of learning what is sometimes sneeringly called a *trade*. There was no necessity for such a step but the father chose so to bring up his son, often repeating to him, "*he who has a trade has an estate.*" The young man became master of his trade, and had the supreme happiness (and earth can offer none more perfect,) of supporting his aged father by his skill and industry; for the great fortune to which he had been born heir, was, by misfortune, all lost.—*Portland Trans.*

Safety in Thunder Storms.—People are often led to inquire what are the best means of safety during a thunder storm? If out of doors, we should avoid trees and elevated objects of every kind; and if the flash is instantly followed by the report, which indicates that the cloud is near, a recumbent position is considered the safest. We should avoid rivers, ponds, and all streams of water, because water is a conductor, and persons on the water in a boat, would be most likely to be struck by the lightning. If within doors, the middle of a large carpeted room will be tolerably safe. We should avoid being near the chimney, for the iron about the grate, the soot that often lines it, and the heated and clarified air it contains, are tolerable conductors, and should on that account be avoided. It is never safe to sit by an open window, because a draught of moist air is a conductor—hence we should close the windows on such occasions. In bed we are comparatively safe, for the feathers and blankets are bad conductors, and we are, to a certain extent, insured in such a situation.—*Selected.*

[There is a most pernicious belief held by many ignorant, and consequently superstitious people, that in respect to danger from lightning, "we are as safe in one place as another." This doctrine is often taught to children, and nothing can be more erroneous. He who through ignorance or otherwise, *exposes* himself in a thunder storm, is the most liable to injury: the doctrine of *destiny* is as absurd in this as in most other matters in which mankind are concerned. No person, we may presume, was ever *destined* to be killed by lightning, any more than the exposed tree or building was destined to be struck by lightning. Science clearly explains the reasons in both cases, and the young especially should early be impressed with this fact, and made acquainted with the principles and precautions taught by scientific truths, rather than be indoctrinated with the absurdities of well disposed old ladies—aunts, grandmas and great grandmas—who, (not meaning the least disrespect,) are usually better qualified to instruct in t e medicinal uses of *herbs* than in the mysteries of more abstruse science.]

An Immense Stone.—The Quincy Granite Railway Company quarried recently one of the largest stones ever moved in Quincy, or probably at any other quarry. Average dimensions, 50 feet long, 28 feet wide, 25 feet deep, making 35,000 cubic feet. Weight of the stone, 3,181 tons, allowing 11 feet to the ton. The huge mass was moved from its bed by gunpowder. The blast hole was 20 feet deep, and 4 1-4 inches diameter. The hole was to have been 25 feet deep, but a piece of the drill broke, and prevented going to the proposed depth. Four casks of powder were used in the operation. For the first blast, one cask was used, which did not crack the stone. The second, one and a half cask, which cracked the rock the whole length, opening a seam an eighth of an inch wide. The third blast, one and a half cask was put in, which opened the seam a full half inch, sufficient to cut the stone into dimensions.—*Boston Trans.*

The Sword Fish.—Mr Fleming, one of the owners of the Royal Archer, of Glasgow, has left at our office for the inspection of the curious, a piece of the timber belonging to that vessel, with the horn or sword of a sword-fish sticking in it to the surprising depth of fourteen inches. This monster of the deep seems to have come in contact with the Royal Archer on her homeward voyage from Ichaboe, and struck the bow of the vessel with such extraordinary violence as to force its weapon through two plates of copper and upwards of a foot into the timber, where it was broken off, either by the violence of the shock, or the desperate efforts of the fish to recover its liberty. It was most fortunate that the weapon remained in the vessel, for it had made an opening, which, if not plugged up in that manner, would probably have sunk her. —*Liverpool Times.*

Guano.—Ship Orpheus at Baltimore, from Chili and Peru, brought 400 tons of guano. A few more such importations will reduce the price of the article materially.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

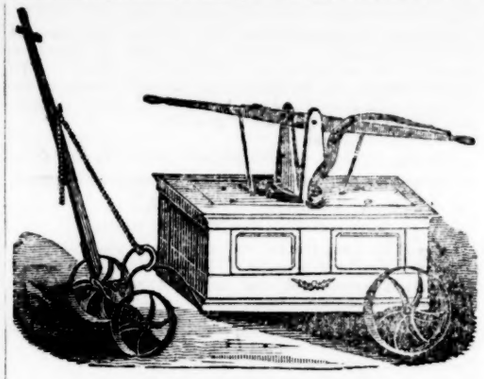
51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.



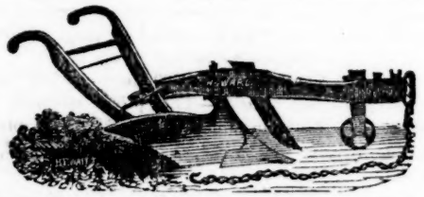
SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Boston, June 4.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, a the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.